

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

A section of a tubular foodstuff casing closed at one end with an end with a flat transverse seam, wherein the casing comprises a heat-sealable polymer material, or has a layer or a coating thereof on an inner side thereof, or wherein the casing comprises (i) uncoated or coated textile material, (ii) knitted material and/or, (iii) nonwoven, or non-fiber-reinforced or fiber-reinforced cellulose, where said flat transverse seam comprises a jointing seam comprising a sealed seam and/or a adhesive seam.